

NITROGLYCERIN

Additional Names: Nitrostat, NitroDur, Transdermal Nitro

Classification: Vasodilator, Antianginal Agent

Indications: Chest Pain suspected to be cardiac in nature (ACS/STEMI)
Congestive Heart Failure

Contraindications: Known Hypersensitivity
Recent use of erectile dysfunction medications (Viagra/Levitra within 24 hours, Cialis within 48 hours)
SBP < 100mmHg
Hypovolemia
Suspected Right Ventricular Infarction (relative)

Dosages: Adult:
Chest Pain / Suspected ACS
0.4mg SL, q 3min prn for chest pain, max 3 doses

After 3 max doses for ACS: 1 inch Nitro Paste TD

Nitroglycerin 5mcg/min, increase by 5mcg every 5 minutes until pain free or asymptomatic, if IV pump is available

CHF / Acute Pulmonary Edema
0.4mg SL, q5min prn (no max) if SBP \geq 100mmHg

Consider Nitroglycerin IV 400mcg/IV/IO every 2 minutes, repeat as needed to improve respiratory status or until systolic BP is 140. Then consider infusion if IV pump is available.

Start Nitroglycerin Infusion at 50mcg/min, increase 5 mcg every 5 min as systolic blood pressure allows

Side Effects: Headache, hypotension, palpitations, flushing, nausea/vomiting

Physiological Effects: Relaxes smooth muscles, thus producing vasodilator effects on arteries and veins and reducing preload and afterload. Causes coronary artery dilatation.

Additional Info: Monitor blood pressure and EKG after each dose.
Do not allow medication to come in contact with your skin. Use gloves for application.